

T H E C L E V E L A N D M U S E U M O F A R T

PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICE
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Three air conditioners, two weighing two tons apiece, and one weighing 3500 pounds, will be installed with the aid of a helicopter on the roof of The Cleveland Museum of Art this afternoon (Monday, June 9). The air conditioners, which cannot be handled by crane, and are too large to be brought through the doors of the Museum, will be installed over galleries in the northwest corner of the 1916 building which are currently being renovated to hold 17th and 18th century decorative arts. The Carrier air conditioners have been especially designed to provide the higher humidity required by the furnishings and wood sculpture that will be installed in the new galleries. When these galleries are completed in the fall of 1975, they will have a separate climate-control system from the rest of the Museum.

The operation of installing the air conditioners will begin at approximately 1:30 p.m. The helicopter will pick up each air conditioner from the Museum's main parking lot, fly south parallel to East Boulevard, then cross the south facade of the Museum, making a right turn over the southwest corner of the 1916 building and lowering the equipment in place over the northwest corner, above the galleries undergoing renovation. The helicopter will not fly over the Museum except where necessary. Paintings and other works of art in the Dutch galleries in the northwest part of the building have been temporarily removed as a safety precaution while the air conditioners are being installed.

(more)

Although the Museum is closed to the public on Monday, it is open to staff members, who in compliance with federal safety regulations, evacuated the building at 1 p.m. Only the plumbers on the roof, and a crew of electricians and engineers working three floors below, remained in the building.

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Submitted by Ann Edwards, The Cleveland Museum of Art, 11150 East Boulevard, Cleveland, Ohio 44106; 421-7340.